AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) Method for producing a security element or transfer element for securing documents of value or for protecting products, comprising:

vapor depositing a substrate with a multicomponent evaporating material, which is transformed into the vapor phase by means of electron beam or resistance heating, such that the evaporized evaporating material deposits as a precious-metal-coloured coating on the substrate;

determining ~~at least one of a coating layer thickness by transmission measurement and~~ a coating composition by reflection measurement; and

correcting deviations in ~~at least one of the coating layer thickness and~~ the coating composition[[,]] from ~~respective~~ a desired value[[s,]] by adjusting at least one of a heating power and ~~a substrate path speed~~ an energy of an electron beam.

2. (Original) Method according to claim 1, wherein the precious-metal-coloured coating is gold-coloured.

3. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the evaporating material consists of individual components in separate crucibles.

4. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the evaporating material is an alloy.

5. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the evaporating material comprises one or several metals from the group containing copper (Cu), aluminum (Al), tin (Sn) and silver (Ag).

6. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the evaporating material comprises Al/Cu or Sn/Cu or Ag/Cu or Ag/Sn/Cu.

7. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the coating comprises 5 to 15 weight per cent aluminum and 85 to 95 weight per cent copper.

8. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the evaporating material comprises at least one foreign metal.

9. (Original) Method according to claim 8, wherein the foreign metal is chosen from the group of iron, manganese, vanadium, chromium, cobalt, silicon, magnesium, zinc or titanium.

10. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein on the substrate are deposited different precious-metal-coloured coatings.

11. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the substrate is a plastic film.

12. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the coating is deposited in a layer thickness of 50 to 100 nm.

13. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein before the coating process diffraction structures are embossed into the substrate.

14. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein after the coating process the substrate is cut in a strip-shaped or ribbon-shaped fashion.

15. (Canceled).

16. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the coating is removed from the substrate and broken into small plates, which, optionally, can be processed into printing ink.

17. (Previously presented) Security element or transfer element for securing documents of value or for protecting products, produced according to claim 1.

18. (Previously presented) Security element or transfer element according to claim 17, wherein the coating deposited on the substrate is at least one coating made of a precious-metal-coloured alloy.

19. (Previously presented) Security element or transfer element according to claim 18, wherein the alloy is gold-coloured.

20. (Previously presented) Security element or transfer element according to claim 18, wherein the alloy comprises copper.

21. (Previously presented) Security element or transfer element according to claim 18, wherein the alloy comprises at least one of aluminum, tin and silver.

22. (Previously presented) Security element or transfer element according to claim 18, wherein the alloy comprises 8 weight per cent aluminum and 92 weight per cent copper.

23. (Previously presented) Security element or transfer element according to claim 18, wherein the alloy comprises at least one foreign metal.

24. (Previously presented) Security element or transfer element according to claim 23, wherein the foreign metal is chosen from the group of iron, manganese, vanadium, chromium, cobalt, silicon, magnesium, zinc or titanium.

25. (Previously presented) Security element or transfer element according to claim 18, wherein the substrate is a plastic film.

26. (Previously presented) Security element or transfer element according to claim 18, wherein the coating has a layer thickness of 50 to 100 nm.

27. (Previously presented) Security element or transfer element according to claim 18, wherein the coating is at least partially overlaid with diffraction structures.

28. (Previously presented) Security element or transfer element according to claim 27, wherein the diffraction structures are embossed in the substrate.

29. (Previously presented) Security element according to claim 1, wherein the security element is a self-supporting label.

30. (Previously presented) Security element according to claim 1, wherein the security element is a security thread.

31. (Previously presented) Security paper for producing documents of value or document of value, characterized in that it has at least one security element according to claim 1.

32. (Original) Security paper or document of value according to claim 31, wherein the security element is a security thread and embedded at least partially in the security paper.

33. (Original) Security paper or document of value according to claim 31, wherein the security element is a transfer element, which is applied to the surface of the security paper.

34. (Previously presented) A method for protecting goods from forgery comprising incorporating therewith a security element or transfer element according to claim 17.

35. (Previously presented) A method for protecting goods from forgery comprising incorporating therewith a security paper or document of value according to claim 31.

36. (Original) Printing ink produced according to claim 16.

37. (New) Method according to claim 1, further comprising determining a coating layer thickness by transmission measurement and correcting deviations in the coating layer thickness from a desired value by adjusting at least one of a heating power, an energy of an electron beam and a substrate path speed.